



Attorney's Docket No.: 07508-027001

AF/3737

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Donald Dieter Frantz, et al. ✓  
Serial No. : 09/703,031 ✓  
Filed : October 31, 2000 ✓  
Title : A FLEXIBLE INSTRUMENT ✓

Art Unit : 3737 ✓  
Examiner : Shah, Devaang ✓

**BOX AF**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

RESPONSE

In response to the action mailed December 18, 2002, please amend the application as follows:

In the claims:

Please cancel claim 2.

Please amend claims 1, 3, 4, and 14 as follows:

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TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

1. A flexible instrument, comprising:
- a flexible member having <sup>a proximal portion</sup> an intermediate portion and a distal tip;
  - at least one fiber-optic intermediate sensor disposed at a predetermined point along said intermediate portion of said member for providing an intermediate path signal indicative of the path of said intermediate portion of said flexible member; and
  - at least one distal sensor positioned proximate said distal tip of said flexible member for providing a distal tip position signal which is independent of the intermediate path signal and indicative of the position of said distal tip of said flexible member;

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY FIRST CLASS MAIL

I hereby certify under 37 CFR §1.8(a) that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail with sufficient postage on the date indicated below and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

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